

Amendments to the Claims:

1. **(Original)** A printer apparatus comprising:

(a) an image-forming unit for forming an image to be transferred onto a recording material; and

(b) a fixing unit for fixing said image onto said recording material, said fixing unit including:

- i) a heat-up roller;
- ii) a heating section for heating said heat-up roller;
- iii) a power supply section for supplying power to said heating section; and
- iv) a heat controller for controlling said power supply section;

wherein said heat controller is in contact with an inner circumferential surface of said heat-up roller, and is thermally deformed at temperatures above a predetermined value and leaves said inner circumferential surface to interrupt power supply of said power supply section to said heating section.

2. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said fixing unit further includes a pressurizing roller.

3. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said fixing unit further comprises:

a fixing roller; and

a belt for engaging said fixing roller and said heat-up roller.

4. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said heat controller and said inner circumferential surface of said heat-up roller is a part of a power line to said power supply section.

5. **(Currently amended)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said heating section comprises:

an ~~existing~~ exciting coil; and

a metal provided on said heat-up roller and producing heat resulting from an electrical field of said ~~existing~~ exciting coil.

6. **(Currently amended)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein said heating section further includes an ~~existing~~ exciting coil core having a plurality of openings.

7. **(Currently amended)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said heat controllers are controller is disposed at both ends a first longitudinal end of said heat-up roller in longitudinal direction thereof, and an additional heat controller is disposed at a second longitudinal end of said heat-up roller.

8. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said heat controller includes a bimetal.

9. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 8, wherein said heat controller includes another bimetal formed of a different bimetal material.

10. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein a dimension of said heat controller in a longitudinal direction of said heat-up roller is longer than a dimension perpendicular to the longitudinal direction.

11. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said heat controller includes a protrusion formed on a tip thereof that is in contact with the inner circumferential surface of said heat-up roller.

12. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 11, wherein said protrusion is rounded.

13. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 11, wherein one of silver and platinum is crimped over said protrusion.

14. **(Currently amended)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein ~~each of plurality of said heat controller constitutes one of a pair of heat controllers is provided opposite to one another one of said heat controllers.~~

15. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said heat controller slides in said heat-up roller.

16. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said fixing unit further includes a temperature-detecting section in proximity to a fixing nip portion.

17. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 16, wherein said temperature-detecting section is disposed on a back face of said belt of said printer apparatus.

18. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said belt includes:
a heat-resistant base layer; and
a surface layer made of an elastic material that covers a surface of said base layer.

19. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, wherein a thickness of said base layer is 10 μm to 250 μm .

20. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, wherein a thickness of said surface layer is 30 μm to 400 μm .

21. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, wherein said base layer is a ferromagnetic metal.

22. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 21, wherein a thickness of said metal is 10 μm to 60 μm .

23. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said fixing roller includes:

a metallic core; and

an elastic portion for covering said metallic core with silicon rubber.

24. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 23, wherein a thickness of said elastic portion is 3 mm to 8 mm.

25. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein an outer diameter of said fixing roller is larger than an outer diameter of said heat-up roller.

26. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein a hardness of a surface layer of said fixing roller is 15 $^{\circ}$ to 50 $^{\circ}$ in Asker C hardness.

27. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said pressurizing roller includes:

a metallic core; and

a surface layer that is an elastic portion provided on a surface of said metallic core.

28. **(Currently amended)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said pressurizing roller includes:

a metallic core; and
a surface layer that is an elastic portion provided on a surface of said metallic core;

wherein a thickness of said elastic portion is smaller than a thickness of ~~a-an~~ elastic portion of said fixing roller.

29. **(Currently amended)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 28, wherein a thickness of said elastic portion provided on the surface of said metallic core is 2 mm to 5 mm.

30. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein an outer diameter of said pressurizing roller is substantially identical with an outer diameter of said fixing roller.

31. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said pressurizing roller has an outer diameter of substantially 30 mm.

32. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein a surface layer of said pressurizing roller is harder than a surface layer of said fixing roller.

33. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 2, wherein a hardness of a surface layer of said pressurizing roller is 20 ° to 60 ° in Asker C hardness.

34. **(Original)** A printer apparatus comprising:

(a) an image-forming unit for forming an image to be transferred onto a recording material; and

(b) a fixing unit for fixing said image onto said recording material, said fixing unit including:

- i) a heat-up roller;
- ii) a heating section for heating said heat-up roller;
- iii) a power supply section for supplying power to said heating section; and
- iv) a heat controller for controlling said power supply section;

wherein said heat controller is in contact with an inner circumferential surface of said heat-up roller, rotates together with said heat-up roller, and is thermally deformed at temperatures above a predetermined value and leaves said inner circumferential surface to interrupt power supply of said power supply section to said heating section.

35. **(Original)** The printer apparatus as set forth in Claim 34, wherein said fixing unit has a rotating shaft that is coupled to a flange section rotating together with said heat-up roller, and said rotating shaft includes a ring-like electrode.